(a) tha allocation made for Agricultural Resaarch and Education during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the allocation during the Eight Five Year Plan for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: (a) Sir, the allocation during the plan have been as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Plan	*Allocation*
IV Plan	85.00
V Plan	153.56
VI Plan	340.00
VII Plan	425.00

(b) and (c). The proposed allocation for the Eight Five Year Plan has not been decided so far.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant

2403. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether modernistion of the Durgapur Steel Plant is nearing completion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether consequent upon modernisation the plant has improved its performance during the past six or seven months and has earned profit on operation; and

(d) if so, tha details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The Modernisation work of Durgapur Steel Plant is due to completion by March, 1993. This time schedule is likely to be adhered to except for one Blast Furnace out of the three to be reconstructed which is expected to be completed by December, 1993.

(c) and (d). While the work on various packages under the modernisation programme of Durgapur Steel Plant is in progress and as such, the question of improvement in the performance of the plant as a result of modernisation does not arise at this stage. DSP have generally improved their operations through which both volume of production and techno-economics have been improving during the current year.

Conversion Units/Agents of SAIL

2404. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) tha details of the Conversion Units/ Agents being assigned/appointed by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and the Rashtriya Ispat Ltd.;

(b) the quantity of raw materials being offered to such Units/Agents annually;

(c) the norms and criteria being followed in this regard as also for the distribution of their conversion products;

(d) whether certain facilities are being provided to them by the SAIL and Rashtriya Ispat-Ltd.

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details fo the appointing authorities alongwith the terms and conditions for appointment of such Conversion Agents?